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CAUSES *Of a Solemn National* Faſt *and* Humiliation, *agreed upon by the* Commiſſioners *of the late* General Aſſembly, *met at* Edinburgh *the* 4. *of* June 1696: *And preſented to the Lords of His Majeſties moſt Honourable Privy Council, To be read by the Miniſters, in all the Churches at the Intimation of the ſaid* Faſt.

THE KING'S MAJESTY, being gone Abroad, and Engaged in a Dangerous War, and His ROYAL PERSON expoſed to Danger, on whoſe Safety and Succeſs under GOD, the Welfare of theſe Nations, and of the Churches of GOD, both at Home and Abroad much depends: It is Our Judgement, that there is great need of pouring out fervent Prayer, and Supplications to GOD, for the Preſervation of His MAJESTIE'S PERSON, and for Directing His Councils, and Bleſſing the Forces of His MAJESTY, and His ALLYES by Sea and Land with Succeſs; and in Order to Our Acceptance with GOD, It is Our Duty to join Faſting and Humiliation and Reformation, with Our Prayers, and to be Humbled, and Lament bitterly before the LORD, That tho' there have been for ſome Years paſt, divers ſolemn National Faſts, and in ſome of them, a Particular Enumeration of the Nations Sins, yet few have been duly Humbled for theſe Sins, and few have joined ſuteable Reformation, with their profeſt Humiliation; and that norwithſtanding of all the Great Things, GOD hath wrought for Us, and the ſhaking of his terrible Judgements of the Sword of a cruel Enemy, and Arrow of Famine, Yet few have turned from the Evil of their Ways unto GOD, or ſought him with all their Heart, We have been unthankful for Our Deliverance, many have been angry at, or murmure under it, the Goſpel hath little ſucceſs, yea by many is much contemned, Iniquity aboundeth in City and Country, and in the Army, and while ſome are in great Straits, others abuſe their Plenty to Exceſs and Riot and Laſciviouſneſs, and by frequent Murders Blood toucheth Blood, Animoſities and Diviſions continue, and theſe contrary to the many Obligations We ly under from GOD, and have taken on Us to GOD, and under all this Sin and Danger, there is a woful Security among Us.

For theſe and other Sins this Nation hath Cauſe, By *Solemn Faſting*, to humble Themſelves before the LORD, And to Repent and Reform, And to pour out Fervent Prayers to GOD, That He would give Repentance to all Ranks of Perſons, and Forgive Our Sins, and Avert Deſerved Wrath, And would Bleſs the Goſpel with Succeſs, Remove Iniquity from among Us, And Advance the Life and Power of *Godlineſs*, Heal Our Breaches, Unite Us more to GOD, and one another in Him, That GOD, would Preſerve, and Bleſs the KING, and Cover his Head in Danger, and go out with his Forces, and theſe of his ALLYES, And Bleſs them with Succeſs, againſt the *Common Enemy*, And in due time give a Comfortable well Grounded Peace.

We ought likewayes with Cordial Symphathy to pray for all the Reformed Churches of CHRIST, and in a ſpecial manner for our afflicted Brethren of the French and other Churches, whom the French King hath grievouſly perſecuted and Scattered.

We ought alſo to pray That GOD would Pity and provide for the Poor in this preſent Dearth, and that he would alwiſe Bleſs the Land with ſeaſonable weather, that there may be a plentiful Crop, and joyful Harveſt, that the Poor may be ſatisfied with Bread.

And the ſaids Commiſſioners do Beſeech and Exhort all both Paſtors and People to be Sincere and Serious in this Great Work, and who can tell, but the LORD will be Gracious, and avert deſerved Wrath, and turn his Hand againſt Our Enemies, and yet delight to dwell among us, and do us Good. Extracted By Me

IO. MONCREIF *Cls. Commiſſ.*

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